

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Makoto FUKUDA et al.

Group Art Unit : 1797

Appl. No. : 10/553,950

Examiner : Katherine ZALASKY

Filed : October 21, 2005

Confirmation No. : 6546

For : HOLLOW FIBER MEMBRANE TYPE FLUID TREATMENT  
DEVICE

**CLARIFICATION OF RECORD**

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Applicants hereby clarify the record by submitting an even more accurate English language translation of the paragraph beginning at line 3, page 11 of PCT/JP2004005870, of which the present Application is a National Stage. Applicants submit that the aforementioned paragraph corresponds to the paragraph beginning at line 18, page 21, of the English language Specification.

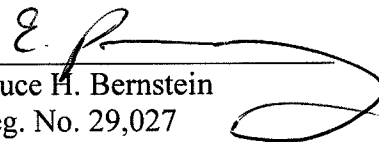
Further, Applicants note that the amendments to the Specification as contained in the Supplemental Amendment filed February 18, 2011, were made with respect to the paragraph beginning at line 18, page 21, of the English language Specification.

Authorization is hereby provided to charge any fee necessary for entry of this paper and any required extension of time and/or any fee necessary for maintaining pendency of the application, including any petition fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Makoto FUKUDA et al

  
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February 25, 2011  
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**Attachment:** English Language Translation of the paragraph beginning at line 3, page 11 of PCT/JP2004005870.

It is important that the ratio ( $d_3/d_4$ ) of the inner diameter of the end tapered portion on the end face side to the inner diameter of the straight portion of the body portion is more than 0 and not more than 3, and preferably more than 0.35, greater than 7.0 and not more than 2. If the ratio of the inner diameter of the end tapered portion on the end face side to the inner diameter of the straight portion of the body portion is less than 1, since the spaces between the hollow fiber membranes is small, the permeability of the dialysate into the hollow fiber membrane bundle extremely deteriorates. If the ratio is more than 3, since the hollow fiber membrane bundle 20 is largely curved at the joint surface  $d_3$  between the housing body portion 10A and the housing head portion 10B in view of the manufacturing method of the body fluid treatment device, the hollow fiber membranes are not uniformly dispersed in the housing head portion 10B.